Women engineers make their presence known

Despite a national stereotype towards male domination in the industry, the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), a national educational and service organization with college chapters nationwide, empowers women to achieve their full potential as engineers and as leaders.

Lesley Telford, the president of the Cal Poly chapter, said that the student club creates an outlet for women to explore their interest in the engineering industry and become part of a community with similar motivations.

"Having a lot of us goes against the stereotype," Telford said, "I feel that SWE on a national level has done a good job in showing that women can be engineers and can be successful!"

In providing career and scholarship resources built around promoting a voice for women in the industry, SWE is on the right track with changing roles of contemporary women, according to a report by California First Lady Maria Shriver and the Center for American Progress.

A nationwide study released two weeks ago, titled "The Shriver Report: A Woman's Nation Changed Everything," it was determined that for the first time in history, half of all U.S. workers, including all professions, are women.

Karen Bangs, the faculty advisor for the Cal Poly chapter, feels that the club supports the new statistics by encouraging women to not be deterred by technical careers.

"Every once in a while there will be some opposition, but in general it is a very supportive industry and college," Bangs said.

The Cal Poly chapter of SWE does a lot to support women engineers and has the awards to prove it.

Twenty members from the Cal Poly division attended the Society of Women Engineers National Conference, the largest annual women engineers' conference in the U.S., from Oct. 15-17 in Long Beach, claiming first place for the seventh time since 2002 for the largest Outstanding Collegiate Section on the Gold Level.

Other awards presented to Cal Poly included tying for first place for both Cal Poly Tech groups (a technical engineering competition) and first place for Outstanding Outreach Event for "Building an Engineer Day."

Cal Poly's Society Women of Engineers received several first place awards at the largest women's engineering conference in the U.S.

Kendra Rowley, vice president of outreach for the club, said that "Building an Engineer Day" had the most impact on younger students by helping them to realize that women can be engineers.

TOMORROW: Sunny High 72/Low 47

MUSTANG DAILY
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

Poly Canyon goes green
Students compete to see who can reduce the most energy consumption

Leticia Rodriguez
STUDENTS ONLY

Taking long hot showers, doing small loads of laundry, and leaving a computer on all night are just some of the habits the Greek

Campus Program is encouraging students to eliminate in the first Poly Canyon Village Energy Competition.

The competition is aimed at not only saving Cal Poly money on their utility bills pitting the residents of the nine Poly Canyon housing units against each other to see which one can reduce its energy consumption the most in the next four weeks. Students in the winning residence hall each year will get new sweatshirts. Green Campus secretary Ravi Sahai wants students to gain a valuable learning experience from the competition.

I hope that students gain a greater awareness on the importance of sustainability because it's something important especially for the future and why it's important to do those things," he said.

Green Campus is overseen by the Alliance to Save Energy, a national nonprofit, and was started in fall 2007 by four students who initially wrote the 50 page proposal to bring the program to Cal Poly. Once the proposal was accepted, the program was formed and funding became available through grants, and tax payer money from PG&E, and Southern California Edison. Across the state, currently Stanford University, and twelve California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) campuses have this program.

The idea behind the competition is to measure the amount of energy used by each building in terms of dollars. In order to get an accurate reading and make the competition as fair as possible between the buildings, program student interns (along with Green Campus staff advisor and Cal Poly Sustainability Manager Dennis Elliot), installed a separate meter to measure strictly the water, heat, and electricity used by businesses located below housing facilities. That number is then subtracted from the overall building total. At the end of the four week period, the hoisting facility with the lowest dollar amount per student is the winner. In order to conserve energy, Sahai said the group is mainly encouraging students to change their everyday behaviors by taking five minute showers, washing larger loads of laundry, and by turning off appliances.

UPD steps up bike enforcement
Alexandra Scott
SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

In the busy morning commute, a cyclist rushes on Truckee Road and Village Drive, near Diablo Hall, runs a red light, almost hits three or four pedestrians and cuts off a car before running another stop sign.

If he had been ticketed it could have cost more than $500.

The University Police Department has started to crack down and enforce bicycle regulation on campus.

"It's not that we are going to be handing out tickets to everyone, it's a judgment thing, and it's not always black and white," Sgt. Robert Eckrote said. "We will be giving tickets and less warnings."

Enforcement has been increased because there are hundreds more cyclists on campus this year than in previous years and too many complaints and accidents have been made, Officer Frank Herrera said.

Officers have been looking at bike traffic at busy intersections like California Boulevard and Campus Way, North Perimeter Road and Via Carta and Grand Avenue and Slack Street, to get an idea of how many people are violating the law.

Officer Chad Reiley found lots of violations during his survey.

"Between 15 to 20 minutes I saw 80 to 100 violations," he said.

Checking traffic laws officers know which parts of campus are more dangerous than others. Eckrote said the UPD found several common violations.

"The most common violations are failing to stop at a stop sign and no headlights (used) half-hour before sunrise and half-hour after sunset," he said.

UPD designed and put up A-frame signs reminding cyclists to stop at stop signs and officers have been handing out informational flyers about bicycle
There are statistics that say fourth and fifth graders are when students are the most discouraged by math and science.

—Kendra Rowley
VP of outreach club

Religious Directory

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Please join us for a celebration of expanding consciousness and love.
Any canoe because they'd never done it before and were looking to get out of that whole 'hotel mentality.' Just because they don't pay for our electricity, we don't mean it nothing to do with his energy saving efforts. "Just developing habits like that can save you a lot of money so when we're adults and we actually have to pay for our electricity, we will realize how much we can actually save for ourselves," he said.

In previous years, the dorm competition has only held within the red bricks, and has reduced their energy anywhere from 15-30 percent. The way this program measures energy usage is by splitting it up into three categories: electricity, heat, and water. During the dorm competition in spring 2008 between all six red brick buildings, the students saved an estimated $10,000 in one month. Normally, University Housing spends approximately $41,000 a month on utilities. Elliot said the money saved goes to funding future energy saving projects.

This year, Sahas said Green Campus is hoping to go to the very least, match that percentage number. For the 2009-2010 budget, University Housing expects to spend approximately one million in housing utilities for Poly Canyon. If Green Campus accomplishes its goal, housing could save approximately $20,000-$25,000. While the program is anticipating another red brick rivalry winter quarter, colonial relations intern Danielle Chandler said they wanted to expand it this year to Poly Canyon because they'd never done it before and were looking to get more students involved. But along with competition, comes intense rivalry and competitiveness. While only roomers of using another building's laundry facility in an effort to affect their energy bill have been whipped, last year students were known to run into other red brick buildings, flip on all their lights or use their showers. While the sabotaging of another building isn't condoned by the program, both Elliot and Sahas said they take it with a grain of salt and if anything, it shows that students care.

"(Last year) was an interesting experience," Elliot said. "A very positive experience for us is students being interested (and) it did make it clear that people were aware and passionate about it."

Emily Sandoval, the learning community coordinator for the sophomore success program, said she hopes that at the end, students will realize how even small steps like turning off lights when leaving a room can affect their future. "I think overall it's a fun way to start bringing awareness to energy conservation and a fun way for students to realize that they have the power to impact things," she said. "I'm hoping they learn how everyone plays a part in energy conservation and how even just a little bit that one person can do can affect the bigger picture on a larger scale. Saving energy isn't that hard!"

In an effort to reduce their energy consumption, child development sophomore Hayley Gilligan is also making a conscious attempt to change her habits. In addition to turning off lights when she leaves a room, Gilligan leaves the light off in the bathroom during the day and doesn't turn the fan on in the bathroom after a shower in lieu of letting the room air out itself. "I hope doing this will get me into the habit of turning off the lights and be good for the environment forever," Gilligan said. "It's good for the environment so it's good for me."

**Bike**

Continued from page 1

laws. Since Oct. 1, officers have been going to dorms to educate students about campus safety, including biking.

Sgt. Lori Hashim said that the UPD had officers actively involved and helping to educate campus. "It's all part of the campaign, get everyone educated," she said. "Let's give everyone a chance."

The UPD will be on foot, bikes and in car regulating bicyclists. Eckrote said.

"Officers will be standing at stop signs and if a bike's doesn't stop the officer will radio another bike officer who will continue to pull them over," he said.

If a person is trying to run from an officer and gets caught officers will arrest them for evading of a police officer and take them to county jail.

Officers will decide what to do if a cyclist is trying to escape, Reiley said.

"With any violator trying to get away, we would have to look and see if it is dangerous to chase," he said. "We can radio giving a description but there is not much an officer can do at that point. It's a case by case scenario."

With a five time offense, the violator depending on the citation, has two options; pay the ticket or attend Bicycle and Skateboard Division class that is two hours long. Hashim said.

"If you attend the class then the ticket is dismissed. With a second offense you don't get the class option," she said.

The class goes over all laws pertaining to bicycles in detail and students watch safety movies, Reiley said.

A fine has to be paid in four to six weeks or it will turn into a warrant for arrest, Eckrote said. Getting multiple bike tickets will also raise car insurance rates.

Tickets also can be issued when a bike is locked to anything other than a bike rack.

"We do a warning with a slip after that the bike is impounded with a bike lock and the owner will have to pay a fine. If not picked up in 24 hours the bike is sized and prices go up," he said.

All bikes on campus must be registered with the UPD there is no penalty but registering a bike can help in getting it returned after it is lost or stolen. Registration can be done online or forms can be picked up at the UPD office.

All Unclaimed bikes go to the lost and found for six months and then are are placed into the semi-annual bike auctions. The next auction is Nov. 4 and 5 at the UPD office.
Clinton tries to resuscitate U.S. policy amid bombings

Sazed Shah

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Wednesday signed the first major piece of federal gay rights legislation, a mile­stone that activists compared to the passage of 1960s civil rights legisla­tion empowering blacks.

The new law adds acts of vio­lence against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people to the list of federal hate crimes. Gay rights ac­tivists voiced hope that the Obama administration would advance more issues, including legislation to bar workplace discrimination, al­low military service and recognize same-sex marriages.

Congress passed the hate crimes protections as an unlikely amend­ment to this year’s Defense Authori­zation Act. Obama, speaking at an emotional evening reception with supporters of the legislation, said that more than 12,000 hate crimes had been reported in the past decade based on sexual orientation.

He spoke of President Lyndon Johnson signing protections for blacks in the 1960s and said this was an extension of that work. “We must stand against crimes that are meant not only to break bones but to break spirits,” Obama said.

“No one in America should ever be afraid to walk down the street holding the hands of the person they love.”

Legislation barring firms from firing employees on the basis of their sexual orientation could win passage in the House of Represen­tatives by year’s end, gay rights ad­vocates said. See Obama, page 5

Obama signs first major federal­al gay rights law

Margaret Talev

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BOMBING

continued from page 4

riven the country.
She told Pakistani television an-
chers in an interview Wednesday that
should come to “clear the air,” but in a
dose of frustration over the highly
charged tone of the criticism of the
$1.5 billion-a-year aid bill, she added:
“You don’t have to take the money.”
“The Pakistani people have the
impression that we are being held
hostage for a very large amount,” said
Erwin Haig, a former head of the
Foreign Relations Committee in the
Senate, the upper house of Pakistan’s
parliament. “The U.S. has to be very
clear whether they are friends with
open arms or not.”

In Peshawar, police said that more
than 300 pounds of high explosives
packed into a car had caused the pow-
erful blast. Rows of shops were flut-
tered and a fire engulfed the area.

In Karachi, police said that more
than 330 pounds of high explosives
packed into a car had caused the pow-
erful blast. Rows of shops were flut-
tered and a fire engulfed the area.

Some shop owners said that they’d
previously received threats from Is-
lamic extremists who objected to
women entering shopping areas — in a
bazaar that catered primarily to them.

“The terrorists are trying to de-
moralize the people and the govern-
ment,” said senior provincial Minister
Babar Bilour, who visited the scene.
“Even if we have to die, we’ll keep
fighting these terrorists till our last
breath.”

OBAMA

continued from page 4

vocates said. More than half of U.S.
states currently allow employers such
freedom.

Obama has promised to push
Congress to repeal the military’s
“don’t ask, don’t tell” policy that
prohibits openly gay people while
serving. A Senate panel is expected
to hold hearing on that issue next
month, and legislation could be de-
halted next year.

Gay rights activists also hope for
repeal next year of the 1996 De-
fense of Marriage Act, which would
give federal legitimacy to gay mar-
rriages recorded in states that allow
them.

The amendment signed into law
Wednesday was named partly for
Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old
student at the University of Wyo-
min who died after a 1998 beating
targeting him because he was gay,
and whose parents were instrumen-
tal in leading the fight for such leg-
islation. The law also was named for
Lindsey Morley, animal sci-
ence senior

“Are you dressing up for Halloween?”

Yes, because it’s the one
time of year when you can
express yourself and be goofy
and wacky. I’m thinking about
being a bouncer and walking
around.”
-Nick Bleich, mathematics
freshman

“Oh yeah, definitely, I’m going
to be Bob the Builder.”
-Greg Imamori, kinesiology ju-
ior

“No, I’m going home to help
my mom pass out candy to
the trick or treaters instead.”
-Pam Learn, agricultural educa-
tion freshman

“I haven’t decided yet. But if I
do want my boyfriend and I to
be Lois and Peter Griffin (from
Family Guy).”
-DesBernstein-Freeman, art
and design senior

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Obama
continued from page 5

joined Obama for the ceremony, at
did the family of the late Sen.
Edward Kennedy of Massaeluisetts,
who until his death in June 2009
was continued from puge
legislation.
ized to suicide. It.
regress had suftiient rete to pass
Edward Kennedy of Massaeluisetts,
on this step forward on behalf of
their lives openly and honestly.
She also called on Americans to
look beyond legislation and work in
their own lives to advance ac-
cceptance of gays.
Critics of the legislation includ­
recently Republican congres­
sional leaders, argued that an attack
against another person is an attack
regardless of orientation, and that no
special categories are appropriate.
Many also voiced concerns
about “thought police” and fear
that the new legal protections
could curb free speech if those
who oppose gay rights fear
they could somehow be pro­
ected for publicly voicing their
thoughts. But the law punishes acts — not thoughts.
Gay rights advocates said that
the legislation will enable the
Justice Department to step in
when states can’t or won’t, and
will make extra federal money
and resources available to local
officials who need help preventing or pos­
sessing such attacks.
They also predicted that it
would affect Americans society in a meaningful way.

“It sends a number of messages
across America that hate will
not be tolerated, that this Con­
gress and administration value all
Americans,” said Joe Solmonese,
the president of the Human
Rights Campaign, the largest
gay rights advocacy group.

Malcolm Larrin, the found­
or of another advocacy group,
Equity Forum, said the legisla­
tive progress comes at a time
when reports were indicating
hate crimes had increased. Last
year, he said, 29 gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender Americans
were killed because of their sexual
orientation, and that since Shep­
dard’s death, more than 16,000
hate crimes have been reported.

“This is really the first fed­
eral gay rights bill,” Larrin said. “So
it is a literally historic moment.
This is America acknowledging homophobia as a social prob­
lem.”

Judy Shepard issued a statement
saying that she and her husband,
Dennis, “are incredibly grateful to
Congress and the president for tak­
ing this step forward on behalf of
hate crime victims and their fami­
lies, especially given the continuing
attacks on people simply for living
their lives openly and honestly.
She also called on Americans to
look beyond legislation and work in
their own lives to advance ac­
cceptance of gays.

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lem.”

Anthony Lloyd, right, and wife Mary pose for portrait at their East
Bethel, Minnesota home, Oct. 21. After suffering a heart attack while
vacationing in Sun City, Arizona, Anthony learned that the new health
insurance policy that his wife had recently purchased was not insurance
at all. The couple now owes $67,000 in medical bills that they can’t
afford.

Maura Lerner

MINNEAPOLIS — Mary
Lloyd’s husband was lying in the
intensive care unit of an Arizona
hospital when she got a good look
at their new health insurance car­
d for the first time.

They got the shock of her life.
The card read: “This is NOT
an insurance card.”

For the retired couple from East
Bethel, Minn., it was the begin­
ing of a financial nightmare that left
them with at least $50,000 in un­
paid medical bills. They discovered
that the new “health plan,” they
signed up for in January, for $500 a
month, wouldn’t pay for any of his
medical care.

“I was royally duped,” said
Mary Lloyd, a pastoral assistance
from a woman who spent 27 years
as a clinic and hospital manager: “I
understand health care, and I un­
derstand health insurance,” she said.

“That’s why I was so mortified that
this happened to us.”
South American health plan turned out to be a limited medical health plan that promises "free dollar coverage" with no co-pays and an army of choices, including "unlimited surgical benefits." "This is terrible insurance. This is not even insurance," Mary said.

Puzzled, she studied one of the cards. It read "Secure Care" by the United Service Association for Health Care (USA+), a nonprofit membership group in Texas. Their health plan turned out to be a "health care savings" program that offers discounts at participating providers. The customer, not the company, must pay the bills.

Mary Lloyd was sure there had been a mix-up. But the hospital business agent took a hard line. She recalled. "You need to pay and you need to pay today." By that time, she said, she'd already paid the hospital's costs for cardiac surgery. "They told me not to pay it," she said.

The Lloyds' case is part of a quick-fix (Eltins designed and installed a series of rods and brackets, much like a splint, to ease stress on the cracked steel beam. Officials said that they believed the fix was solid and that the bridge was safe for reopening.

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This shawl Medical Center in San City, and he heard the words: "He's having a heart attack.

Mary Lloyd pulled out her insurance card the next morning in the hospital's business office. Doctors had discovered a 100 percent blockage in her husband's artery. Fortunately, they had cleared it quickly enough to prevent heart damage. "Nora Anthony was resting in the ICU."

The business agent took the card. Mary Lloyd said, and threw them back on the counter. "She said, 'This is terrible insurance. This is not even insurance.'"

Mary recalled.

Friends rushed him to Banner Fitz's emergency room. After a similar investigation by New York insurance regulators, it was determined that the Florida company, (nery Health Care (USA+), a nonprofit membership group in Texas. Their health plan turned out to be a "health care savings" program that offers discounts at participating providers. The customer, not the company, must pay the bills.

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YORBIA LINDA, Calif. (MCT) — "A topographical error" resulted in the recall of student T-shirts at Linda Vista Elementary School's recent jog-a-thon, after a parent called the phone number printed on the back of the shirts and was connected to an adult chat line.

T-shirts were handed out to all students participating in the Oct. 6 jog-a-thon during recess and re-called before students left at the end of the day. Principal Jackie Howland said the school believes that all of the T-shirts were retrieved, but parents were called just in case.

The Lloyds learned that their "membership plan" included a limited medical insurance benefit up to $5,000 for an operation, and $1,000 a day for hospital care. But the Lloyds never got any of it. In spite of the salesman's promises, their entire claim was rejected because of a pre-existing condition: Anthony's high blood pressure.

By the time Anthony Lloyd was discharged two days later, his bills totaled $67,000.
ASI haunted house production scares Cal Poly students

Leticia Rodriguez and Nikol Schiller
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ASI haunted house production scares Cal Poly students

Artistic school productions scare Cal Poly students

Nikol Schiller

Elementary school child, but came

r-rankenstein and the (him Reaper

Leticia Rodriguez and

ing a t'right-test more suitable for an

night. Some students went in expec-

ation senior litus Shelton said the

severed limbs and spider webs that

way for students to get in the

house went above his expectations as

far as the fear and scare factor.

"They all did a great job."

At the beginning of the maze, students were greeted by a mysteri-

she said. "It gives you one nuire thing

stills, she couldn't decide which of the

two characters was scarier.

"I hate clowns, I have a phobia of

clovers. I was literally sprinting out of

to the clown got most

visitors to

with a painted white face and black

maniacal laughter from the clown

sprinted away from the clown. But

the door of the grim reaper's room

coming alive to give chase.

"We want ours to be more acces-

-But the haunted

house next year.

"I was starting to worry that peo-

ly people hadn't heard about it," she said.

But the line just never seems to end

members began decorating Monday

afiernoon when they transformed

the dead bride in the graveyard

urged people to stay with her but the

mirror room with the clown got most

people jumping as he chased un-

students around the room

until they finally fled. "How are you?

I'm really, really hungry. Just stay for

little while!" he urged as students

sprinted out the entryway.

From there the path led visitors to

to give chase.

"Communications senior Gabrielle

Rivera said she ran into a pole after

the grim reaper started moving and

heard from the grim reaper and the

two characters was scarier.

and everyone seems to really like the

outcome."

The group of volunteers and ASI

members began decorating Monday

afternoon when they transformed

the cold, empty auditorium into a dark

and sinister haunted house. In the

four hours that the haunted house

was open, more than 700 Cal Poly

members walked through the narrow,

spider-webbed hallways.

With a proposed financial plan of

$4,000, Serafin coordinated the entire

see Haunted, page 9

offered to the door.

"The dead bride in the graveyard

urged people to stay with her but the

mirror room with the clown got most

people jumping as he chased un-

students around the room

until they finally fled. "How are you?

I'm really, really hungry. Just stay for

little while!" he urged as students

sprinted out the entryway.

From there the path led visitors to

the main room where a girl in hiding

asked to "borrow your face," as she

flouted around, speaking in a high,

whimsical voice. The dead wedding

with a painted white face and black

eyses offered disfigured limbs covered

in blood.

ASI member and philosophy ju-

ior Kay Skeeters was excited about

the turnout from students, which av-

eraged about 150 students into the

maze per hour. Hanging out survey

flyers to students exiting the haunted

house, Skeeters said a majority of the

responses were positive, an indication

that ASI might continue the haunted

house next year.

"I was starting to worry that peo-

ple hadn't heard about it," she said.

But the line just never seems to end

and everyone seems to really like the

outcome."

The group of volunteers and ASI

members began decorating Monday

afternoon when they transformed

the cold, empty auditorium into a dark

and sinister haunted house. In the

four hours that the haunted house

was open, more than 700 Cal Poly

members walked through the narrow,

spider-webbed hallways.

With a proposed financial plan of

$4,000, Serafin coordinated the entire

see Haunted, page 9
Haunted

Continued from page 5

Haunted home project under budget. Setup begins by having a group set up poles and black sheets to create a maze-like structure with hallways leading to different rooms in the haunted house. At Monday evening approached and the structure of the haunted house was set up, a team of student audiovisual technicians began working on the lighting in Chumash to add special lighting effects to each of the six themed rooms. Chemistry senior and audiovisual manager Zack Sudduth gave a mischievous smile when asked how long he stayed to coordinate the lights that night.

"Let’s just say we were here until the ‘wee hours of the morning,' he said.

A projected image of a full moon partly covered by ominous cloud shone onto the auditorium stage above a makeshift graveyard. The audiovisual technicians threw green light on the table full of beakers and glass containers full of brains and dead rats. Pink spider web images were projected on the ground of the dark hallways.

Once the lights were set up, Serafín showed up with a bag of plastic, bloody body parts to Chumash Tuesday afternoon to begin decorating the black maze. She and a couple other ASI members set up the rooms within two hours, placingFrançois in the haunted graveyard room, trick mirrors in the fun house room and red Jell-O mounds to act as a bloody treat in the restaurant room.

At around 6:30 p.m., a group of ASI employees gathered in the back of the Chumash staging area to get into character. Serafín went over rules with ASI monitors and dressed-up volunteers: no touching anyone who walked through the maze; make sure no one “hangs out” in the haunted house and know the emergency exits. ASI monitors were also instructed to stand alongside the black, curtained walls, making sure that people followed the path and didn’t go outside the guided maze. The actors had their predetermined rooms that they stayed in, scaring the groups of people by popping out of the darkness or scaring everyday things as the groups walked by.

After the quick talk, she started pulling props out of a bag and handing out costumes to the haunted house performers to start the transformation.

Psychology sophomore Marjike Ulcman held a ragged black wig and a tattered black shawl before covering her face in a charcoal gray paint. As the greeter of the haunted house, Ulcman would be the first character people saw. She wanted to leave a lasting impression on them. After seven years of theater training, she knew she wouldn’t break down laughing at the terrified groups entering Chumash.

While the energy in the staging area was high on the idea of scaring people, not everyone had complete confidence like Ulcman. A couple of the actors were worried about how the groups would react to their performance.

As ASI member Dave Carlson put on his green, knee-high clown socks, he worried that students wouldn’t be enthusiastic going through the haunted house. Despite his nerves, Carlson was not only excited about being in the haunted house-themed room and creeping out students by sneaking up behind them, but he also enjoyed wearing his striped, clown onesie.

"I’m a little nervous about people not being freaked out and just standing there being like, ‘ahhh ...’" he said. "But the costume is kind of a fashion statement! I might take this out on the town when I go downtown." After going to the women’s restroom to change into her corpse bride costume, Serafín came back in her ragged white wedding gown. As one of the ASI monitors was painting Serafín’s face white and giving her green lips and ghoulishly green cheekbones, she jokingly said, "I’m hoping I don’t get scared inside!"

Most Bullock, ASI programs coordinator, stopped in to see how the costume change was going and was impressed with the efforts of all of the ASI members.

Mechanical engineering senior Casey Lightner and civil engineering senior John Schieser would be teaming up as a mad scientist and Frankenstein in the first room of the haunted house. Lightner put on his wild, gray mad scientist wig and his dirty lab coat with the words “help you” written in red, fake blood across the back and quickly got into character.

Once he was done with his costume and makeup, he assumed the classic mad scientist pose: head tossed back with a crazed look of success on his face and his hands manicured all

see Haunted, page 1

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Eating competitions should not be taken lightly

A five-pound burrito, 50 or more hot dogs and hot wings so spicy you have to sign a waiver to eat them sounds like enough food to feed an army. In the world of competitive eating, these are just a few examples of what could be devoured in a single competition. One of the most famous competitive eating contests is the National Hot Dog Eating Contest on Coney Island during the Fourth of July. There are many others including local restaurants that enable people to test their eating abilities.

If someone says competitive eating is not a real sport, they may need to think again or call up the International Federation of Competitive Eating (IFOCE), which established eating as a sport in the 1990s. It hosts more than 100 major league eating events worldwide and will award nearly $400,000 in prize money this year.

The Association of Independent Competitive Eaters (AICE) holds contests as well. They are different from the IFOCE because they forbid the dinking of foods in water, a practice which allows the food to be more easily broken down.

Training for a competitive eating contest can be compared to training for a foot race. You have to practice daily, work your way up and push yourself to your utmost limits. Competitive eater Takashi Kobayashi was featured on a segment of MTV’s “True Life: I’m a competitive eater,” where he was shown going through his various training methods.

He would eat large quantities of different amounts of foods, drink a lot of water over a short period of time to stretch his stomach and eat large quantities of low calorie foods (like vegetables and pasta) along with a lot of water. Kobayashi emphasized the importance of nutrition and staying fit, which seems ironic for a competitive eater, but he maintains a six-pack and is not overweight at all.

Moving on to the biggest worries with competitive eating — body and lung effects on the body. Of course, the obvious health problem would be excessive weight gain, which could lead to obesity.

Studies from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine tested a competitive eater immediately after eating excessive amounts of food and found “the stomach failed to have normal muscle contractions called peristalsis, a function which transfers food from the stomach down the digestive tract.”

Other medical professionals said it can lead to ulcers and the large amounts of water consumed can lead to water intoxication. Another concern is the condition gastraspasm, which can occur when the stomach is stretched too much and beyond its capacity, causing indigestion, nausea and vomiting.

There are some local eating challenges in San Luis Obispo and cities close by. Franks, located on the corner of Monterey and California, has a challenge on Monday to see if you can eat 10 of their mini hamburgers. Sylvester’s, on Santa Ynez Avenue off of 10th Street from Los Osos Valley Road, challenges you to eat their gigantic, tray-sized hamburger, which you even have to order the day before.

All in all, competitive eating is a sport where the negatives can sometimes outweigh the positives. I’m a fan and give props to all those who go out and compete.

Since large competitive eating competitions do not occur often, I suggest you watch the show “Man v. Food” on the travel channel Wednesday nights at 10. Adam Richman, the show’s host, is not a competitive eater in the training sense, but he competes in eating challenges at various restaurants around the country. He is pretty inspiring and makes you want to try the restaurants out.

Competitive eating is a great example of how doing something too much can hurt you, but in moderate amounts you should be OK. So the next time you are hesitant to try that eating challenge, remember that doing it one time won’t kill you. So put on your game face, tell your stomach who’s boss and come out on top in the challenge of man against food.

Bethany Abelson is a food science senior and Mustang Daily food columnist.
Opinion/Editorial

Thursday, October 29, 2009

FOX News is lying to its viewers: "FOX & Friends" segment is not as straight news oriented as it claims to be

Last week, there was one legitimate criticism of my column. Just one. I should have included his and conservative commentary made by FOX News' straight news anchors as well as he made by his pundits. I thought I'd go ahead and correct that mistake this week, using facts I found on the Media Matters Web site.

We'll start with the morning news program: "FOX & Friends." On Oct. 22, this straight news program used a Republican National Committee (RNC) press release about the job losses in September, with the large headline "876,742 new unemployment claims." Underneath that heading read "Stimulus generates unemployment."

Gretchen Carlson, an anchor on this so-called straight news program spoke about the RNC document comparing the Obama administration from the first stimulus plan was that 3.5 million jobs would be created. And, in fact, the United States has lost 2.7 million since the stimulus plan.

According to Media Matters, the RNC press release states "while President Obama claimed the result of his stimulus bill would be the creation of 3.5 million jobs, the Nation has already lost a total of 2.7 million — a difference of 6.2 million jobs."

However, the January administration report referenced by the RNC press release states that "Because it takes time to carry out new spending programs authorized by legislation, we expect the jobs created by spending on infrastructure, education, health, and energy to be concentrated in 2010 or 2011."

So the RNC press release made a negative declaration about the stimulus package that simply can't be substantiated by their source document. And FOX News' straight news program, "FOX & Friends," used the information without fact checking it.

As a straight news organization, there's also a significant ethical violation in the fact that they're using an RNC document — which is bound to be biased — as a source for facts, instead of questioning the RNC about the document as a straight news program normally would.

Another issue discussed by both Glenn Beck and Chris Wallace recently is the Chamber of Commerce's "Numbers Game." That the Chamber has "probably close to 200,000 dues-paying members." They are loosely affiliated with around 3 million businesses, but they do not represent 3 million businesses.

And the huge negative impact of FOX misrepresenting facts can be seen clearly when you look at the opinions of their viewers. According to an August NBC poll, 73 percent of FOX News watchers believed that the public option would lead to the government dictating care for the elderly, even though it has been clearly stated that the public option will not lead to these so-called death panels. Only 45 percent of all people polled believed that public option will lead to death panels.

That 30 percent difference is why I believe that FOX should be described as a news organization. Facts and truth are too important for our representative democracy for us to allow this issue to fizzle out of public consciousness.

Stephanie England is an English senior and Mustang Daily political editor.

I love Zipcar! Up until now, I've mainly used Zipcar when I travel. Now, that it's come to Cal Poly, I think I'll be using them a lot more. The whole process of reserving a Zipcar is really quite simple. One thing that wasn't mentioned in the article is that gas is included, which I think makes the rates even more reasonable. One suggestion I have for Zipcar is to put a Mini Cooper convertible on campus! This is the central coast, the weather is fantastic and a convertible would do well here.

Response to "President will get shorter W09 next year"

Supposedly, when you turn 18, you are an adult. Mailing letters home to parents is not treating them like adults, but more like minors. If they drink too much and wind up in the hospital, it's their decision and they should be free to experience any of the consequences. The parents have failed their children if one of the first things the child does with his new-found independence is drink himself stupid or get arrested.

Also, shortening next year's W09 is punishing next year's incoming class for the actions of this year's freshman class.

Response to "I'm going to shorter W09 next year"

I'm not to incite ideas into your readers or writers with your articles? It is easy, and not very beneficial, to providing criticism without providing a exchange, while it is much harder and likewise more beneficial to provide solutions and accept the criticism.

Response to: "U.S. debt continues to problem"

We are getting federal funds now. This means everybody in the other 49 states are being taxed without representation in California. Interesting times we live in.

Response to: "CSU gets money to increase course offerings"

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The Liberal Lens
by Stephanie England

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To Cornell Morton, I really hope there were some typos in your "Halloween Message" to all students on Wednesday. In fact I hope it was the same typo in the e-mail you sent out earlier this year regarding WOW. You stated (in both e-mails) as a suggestion to ensure our safety that "If you're of legal age, limit alcohol and make good decisions." Well Cornell, what if a student is NOT of legal age, like half the students? Should those students make BAD decisions? I know you want all students to obey the law, but everyone knows it's inevitable that underage students will drink. Couldn't you at least have the decency to tell ALL students to limit alcohol and make good decisions? By phrasing your sentence in that manner (and with all the other legal warnings and threats), you show that you care more about being a politically correct administrator, rather than a thoughtful one.

Your e-mail is full of things we SHOULDN'T do, but I don't see many things we CAN do. You encourage us "to take full advantage of on-campus programs and activities." It would be nice if you listed some of those programs and activities for us; after all, you did list many of those programs and activities for us; after all, you did list some of those programs and activities for us; after all, you did list the components of the Social Host Ordinance - Municipal Code Section 9.05.010... no room for activities that don't require alcohol! I checked the ANI website for events on Friday and Saturday. There is a volleyball tournament and a Rose Float Lab Day. I CHALLENGE you to inform the students of other activities they can participate in; I won't wonder who you blame that I miss we're going all out for the Rose Float this year.

Stephen Murphy
mechanical engineering senior

Edward Wasserman

The idea that "content is king" is a favorite slogan among media people, since it's comforting to think that the industry is ruled by its creative side. Comforting, but fictional.

Who does rule the media kingdom? Not the content creators, but the people who control their physical access to the public, that's who. Sooner or later, channels trump content. That's why people who care about freedom of expression have to start by caring about the freedom of the channels over which expression flows.

Hence the importance of the fermenting controversy over so-called net neutrality - a policy that is intended to keep the companies that rent us access to the Internet from playing favorites among Web services, information exchanges, content providers of all kinds.

Why does that matter? Because the pace and direction of media development have been historically set by the people who controlled the content points with the public.

The film industry was the creature of moviemakers, but of early 20th-century theater-owners who wanted to fill their seats. They fled the East Coast for Southern California to escape the Edison Trust monopoly over supplies of film stock - a stranglehold broken up by the government in 1917. Freeing up those channels made Hollywood possible.

The Hollywood studio system that arose rested first and foremost not on content deals with stars and directors, but on ownership of movie theaters, which froze out independent producers. In 1948 the government forced the studios to give up the cinemas — and a new Hollywood was born.

The story goes on. FM radio languished for decades, despite its inherent superiority over AM, until regulators forced radio owners to stop squatting on FM as a secondary outlet for their AM Top-40 rubbish and populate it with content of its own. That wasn't until the 1960s, and the result was a robust appetite for sounds to fill high-fidelity channels — the ideal midwife for the birth of alternative rock-n-roll.

Channels rule content. It's the promise of assured access to the public that inspires and emboldens content creators. During a 20-year period starting in the 1970s, when the three major TV networks were barred from monopolizing the downstream syndication channels for programs they licensed, independent TV programming flourished and in the all-too-recent past three new TV networks emerged. By monopolizing channel control, the companies that control the Internet — generally big telecoms such as Comcast and AT&T — should be allowed to favor some content providers over others.

Will they be free to decide which content will flow easily and which content will go slowly? Will they be allowed to charge more for Web services that compete with companies they own, or force such independents onto slower transmission speeds, or strong-arm startups into cutting them in as partners in exchange for favored online treatment, or make it harder or costlier for you to hook up devices made by companies they aren't in favor with?

Comcast, the country's biggest cable-owner, already ran afoul of neutrality guidelines and was slapped by regulators in 2008 for unfairly interfering with traffic on BitTorrent, a peer-to-peer file-sharing network. Comcast is moving heavily into the content business; it owns several sports channels and a big piece of E! Entertainment. It's pioneering an offering of online programs — HBO's Entourage and AMC's Mad Men — exclusively for its Internet subscribers. And it's maneuvering to buy NBC-Universal from GE, which would give it a major TV network and one of its top movie studios.

It's inevitable that Comcast will be competing with some of the same online services that rely on its cable systems to reach the public. Likewise with AT&T: Where's the guarantee that it'll give nondiscriminatory treatment to an online company like Skype, whose worldwide Internet phone service competes directly with AT&T's core phone service?

Control over channels constitutes a perpetual, potential stranglehold over media development, even with a technology whose growth and flowering seem to be as unstoppable as the Internet's. Content may never be king. The game may well be held by the channel-masters. But net neutrality, like a Magna Carta, is a way to ensure that their power is not absolute.
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In Candyland, kids trick-or-treat for protein.

Announcements
Get your HAM radio license in one day! The Cal Poly Amateur Radio club is offering a 1-day cram and test session on Sat. Nov. 7. See w6bhz.org for info.

Pink Day will be on Thurs. Oct. 29 in honor of all women and men who have had breast cancer. We are trying to get a huge demonstration on the Cal Poly campus to show our support in the fight against breast cancer.

Announcements
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Mustangs defeat UC Riverside 3-0 at home

NICK CAMACHO Mustangs

Cal Poly freshman midfielder Chris Cjaschcn scored his first two career goals in a 3-0 win over UC Riverside. Midfielder Junior Burgos returned to the Mustangs after suffering an ankle injury. The first goal scored was recorded by midfielder I'ini White, his first since 2007. The Mustangs match up at home against UC Santa Barbara next Wednesday night.

Oregon continued from page 16

winning streak that covered parts of five seasons. Oregon is 3-1 in its past four home games against Top 10 teams.

Credit Autzen Powers.

"No crowd usually gets to me," Cal tailback Jahvid Best said. "Oregon's the only one that stands out in my mind that got to me."

Autzen will be the 66th consecutive sellout at Autzen. All four home games this season have drawn beyond capacity crowds, bringing Oregon's average attendance so far in 2009 to 107.1 percent of Autzen's 34,000 capacity. But it's not so much the numbers as it is the noise. Disrupting and intimidating opposing teams has become a source of pride with the Autzen faithful.

"The biggest mistake people made going in there was trying to instigate the crowd and say bring it on, because they brought it on and usually it was followed by three illegal procedure penalties (for opponents) after that," said Cal coach Jeff Tedford, a former Ducks assistant.

"The difference is Autzen's noise is continuous," Tedford said. "At most stadiums, there's ebb and flow of what goes on. When they're excited, they're excited, and then they fall for a little bit. Autzen stays the same no matter what, always, no matter if you get ahead by 14 or 20 or whatever, they stay after it... It's unlike any other stadium."

Tedford, Bellotti and others maintain the pre-2002 renovation configuration of the stadium actually generated more noise because of the so-called "Autzen bounce," where the crowd's roar would reach the top of the stadium and then bounce down. Bellotti said plans for future renovation would trap more crowd noise making the stadium even louder.

"Honestly, any other away game I don't really even hear the crowd," Cal's Best said. "Oregon's the only place where it just really got on my nerves."

And it's not just the noise that's unnerving. "The fans are really close to the field there," USC safety Taylor Mays said. "And you can really feel there intensity. Really feel it."

The beer and the profanities promise to flow freely Saturday night, the howl of the ghosts and the unrelenting roar echoing through the night, bouncing across a stadium determined once again to flex Autzen Powers.

"Autzen is a nightmare for opposing teams because of the Oregon fans," Moshier said, "and we'll do our damnedest to live up to all the hype surrounding that fact."

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This Week in Mustang Athletics

This Week in Mustang Athletics

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#15 Anicia Smith
#4 Catie Smith
#1 Dominique Olowolafe
In 1972 No. 3 Cal Poly locked horns with No. 6 North Dakota for the NCAA West College Football Championship in the 12th annual Caniglia Bowl.

In front of the largest crowd of all regional bowls that year, Cal Poly became the victim of an underdog upset and was pushed into North Dakota’s record books as their 10th win that season.

It was one of the few times in the school’s history that Cal Poly made it to a championship game and the Mustangs ended the season with no reward.

This Saturday at the Alerus Center, No. 16 Cal Poly (4-3, 1-0 Great West) squares off against Great West foe North Dakota (3-4, 1-1) in the hunt for FCS supremacy.

With four games to go in the season, the Mustangs are set on making a run at the playoffs.

Since the FCS (formerly Division I-AA) championship was installed in 1978, no team with 4 losses has held the championship trophy; unless the Mustangs can change history, they will need to run the table into the postseason.

Fullback Jake Romaneli said the team is treating every game as a playoff game.

“We can still win the Great West championship, and go all the way into the playoffs with a full head of steam,” he said.

Last year, Cal Poly held arguably one of the most prolific offenses in school history. Averaging nearly 45 points a game and 480 yards of total offense, Cal Poly was crowned the Great West champion and placed in a matchup against Weber State in the first round of the postseason.

Turning the ball over only six times all year, they turned the ball over five times against Weber State and fell short 49-35 in first round.

Another season filled with expectation turned to one with no reward.

Cal Poly has yet to be named Football Championship Subdivision champion, but this year’s team can remain in the hunt if head coach Tim Walsh and the Mustangs can overcome the injuries that have plagued them all season to fend past the Fighting Sioux this weekend.

With multiple players hurt on the offensive line, including several running backs, Cal Poly has fought through setbacks.

“We don’t have continuity in who plays and who practices,” Walsh said.

While the injuries have hurt the Mustangs, Cal Poly’s depth has allowed them to remain competitive despite a schedule that included two games against Football Bowl Subdivision teams.

Behind the behemoths in the trenches, including true freshman tackle Giovanni Santi, the Mustangs continue to bounce around the top of the nation in rushing statistical categories.

The Mustangs boast the 10th ranked rushing offense in the FCS (208.96 yards per game) and also rank 10th in the FCS in time of possession (32.50 minutes per game). Cal Poly’s offensive line has allowed 71 sacks per game and is tied for 4th in the FCS.

Over the past two weeks, the Mustangs have proved that they hold a fourth option in their triple option rushing attack—senior fullback Jake Romaneli.

Romaneli moved into the starting lineup after starting fullback Jordan Yocum was injured. He tallied his first career 100 yard game and touchdown against Southern Utah and rumbled for 96 yards against Dixie State.

“When your name is called, you have to be ready to step up,” Romaneli said.

The sophomore is just one of six Mustangs who have accumulated over 100 yards on the ground this season.

With the defensive scheme will be the same scheme that Cal Poly struggled against this past weekend — the 3-4.

In the Mustangs’ first game against the 3-4 this season, they were only able to muster 178 yards rushing against Dixie State, their worst total all year.

“It’s good to have a week of practice and have some live situations against Dixie State, but this week we need to improve on some things,” quarterback Tony Smith said.

This season North Dakota has allowed 222 points on defense, exactly 70 points more than Cal Poly, through seven games (31 points per game average).

Junior strong safety Joel Schwenke leads North Dakota in tackles, tackles for loss and interceptions. Cornerback Dominique Hawkins, who is also high up on the tackle list, talked a career-high 12 tackles last week against Southern Utah.

Offensively, North Dakota is led by wide receiver Isreal Bamba. The sophomore set a new career high against South Dakota with 141 yards receiving on six catches. That was the 41st-best receiving game ever by a North Dakota player. He also held a three-game streak of over 100 yards receiving this season.

“(Bamba) is a wide-receiver that could probably play anywhere in the country,” Tim Walsh said.

Feeding him the ball is quarterback Jake Landry. He has thrown for 1281 yards and seven touchdowns this season.

Both will line up against a Mustang defense that salivates for turnovers.

The Mustang defense is ranked fifth in the FCS in turnover margin (+1.71 per game) and is tied for fourth in the FCS in turnovers gained and fifth in FCS in interceptions.

“When all our goals on the table the final stretch of the season (this is) a huge game this week against North Dakota,” quarterback Tony Smith said.

Kickoff is set for 2 p.m. on Saturday.

They still believe in the power of the team’s “mystique” in Eugene.

At the liberal college town’s weekly Saturday market, tie-dyes are always in fashion and the 60s are alive, including the ever-present scent of non-medicinal marijuana still floating in the wind. A little more than a mile back up the Willamette River, a standing-room-only crowd of some 40,000 fans -- including Oregon’s controversial 2006 upset of Oklahoma -- ran up the University of Oregon’s Autzen Stadium on Saturday night convinced that the Ducks can probably play anywhere in the country.

Or at least college football games.

Consider Arizona.

The Sporting News has called Autzen the sport’s “most intimidat­ ing stadium,” a claim supported by record-setting decibel readings at ear-splitting levels.

“The square-mile, the loudest sta­ dium in the history of the planet,” longtime ABC sportscaster Keith Jackson called Autzen.

But the true force of Autzen is perhaps best measured by the Richter scale. Oregon fan Tobiah Mosher became convinced of Autzen’s fame after lying on the grass under the stadium and feeling Oregon’s controversial 2006 upset of Oklahoma on his Eugene apartment.

“I could feel the stadium shak­ ing my glasses, I could feel my dishes from a half a mile away,” Mosher said this week.

This Saturday, Autzen will once again be at college football’s ep­ itome, playing host to No. 4 USC (6-1, 3-1 Pac-10) and No. 10 Ore­ gon (6-1, 4-0) and the ghosts of upsets past on Halloween night in a game that might not only decide the Rose Bowl race but also could have BCS national championship game ramifications.

“It will be crazy,” said Mike Bel­ loti, longtime Oregon-coach and now weekly-between-the-hedges director.

For Ducks fans Saturday’s game has been nothing less than all con­ vention.

“The expectancy for the game right now in town is nuts,” said Jonathan Klein, an Oregon fan and Eugene native. “People can’t work. Everyone is obsessed with Saturday’s game.”

In The Sporting News’ list of Top 10 most intimidating stadiums in college football, Autzen was ranked ahead of, among others, Ben Hill Griffin Stadium (No. 2), Florida’s EverBank Field, Tiger Stadium (No. 4), LSU's Death Valley.

Earlier this decade the Ducks hosted a nation-leading 23-game